United Nations A/C.2/58/L.8

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 October 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 95
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, in which it proclaimed the year 2003 as the International Year of Freshwater,

Emphasizing that water is a driving force for sustainable development, environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, indispensable for human health and well-being,

Determined to achieve internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,[1] which set a goal to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation,

[1] Resolution 55/2.

03-57953 (E) 241003

Bearing in mind the comprehensive review of today's water problems and recommendations of the *World Water Development Report 2003*, a joint project of twenty-three United Nations specialized agencies and other entities, and other water-related collaborative mechanisms and initiatives,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration entitled "Message from the Lake Biwa and Yodo River Basin",[2] adopted on 23 March 2003, at the Ministerial Conference on the occasion of the Third World Water Forum, held in Kyoto, Japan, and the Dushanbe Water Appeal,[3] adopted on 1 September 2003 at the International Freshwater Forum, held in Dushanbe,

1. *Proclaims* the period from 2005 to 2015 as the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", commencing on World Water Day, 22 March 2005;

2. *Decides* that the goal of the Decade should be a greater focus on water-related issues, with emphasis on women as managers of water, and the furtherance of international cooperation among all stakeholders in order to help to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit for Sustainable Development,[4] Agenda 21[5] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;[6]

3. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development to identify possible activities and programmes in connection with the Decade within the framework of consideration of water and sanitation issues at its twelfth and thirteenth sessions, as provided for by its Multi-Year Programme of Work;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs with the coordination of activities for the Decade;

5. *Calls upon* the competent United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system to deliver a coordinated response to make it a "decade for action".

---

[2] A/57/785, annex.

[3] A/58/362, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[5] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[6] Resolution S-19/2, annex.